

Senate File 360 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 360
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 183)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to institutional health facilities under the
2 newborn safe haven Act.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 233.1, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code
2 2017, is amended to read as follows:

3 a. *“Institutional health facility”* means any of the
4 following to the extent the facility, building, or agency is
5 available twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week:

6 (1) a A hospital as defined in section 135B.1, including
7 a facility providing medical or health services that is open
8 twenty-four hours per day, seven days per week and is a
9 hospital emergency room or a health care facility as defined
10 in section 135C.1.

11 (2) A facility for an authorized emergency medical services
12 service program, as defined in section 147A.1, subsection 12.

13 (3) A licensed emergency care facility, as defined in
14 section 147A.21, that is a freestanding facility.

15 (4) A licensed child-placing agency, as defined in section
16 238.1, that meets all of the following criteria:

17 (a) Agrees to act as a designated emergency infant care
18 provider.

19 (b) Employs a licensed registered nurse or another
20 individual who performs reasonable acts necessary to protect
21 the physical health or safety of the newborn infant.

22 EXPLANATION

23 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
24 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

25 This bill relates to institutional health facilities
26 authorized under the newborn safe haven Act to accept the
27 voluntary relinquishment of physical custody of a newborn
28 infant by a parent of a newborn infant up to 14 days old, or by
29 a person authorized by the parent, without fear of prosecution
30 for abandonment.

31 Under current law, “institutional health facility” means
32 a hospital, including a facility providing medical or health
33 services that is open 24 hours per day, seven days per week and
34 is a hospital emergency room or a health care facility.

35 The bill amends the definition of “institutional health

S.F. 360

1 facility" to include a facility for an authorized emergency
2 medical services service program, a freestanding licensed
3 emergency medical care facility, and a licensed child-placing
4 agency that meets certain criteria, to the extent the facility,
5 building, or agency is available 24 hours per day, seven days
6 per week.